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Attorney for Plaintiff

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RONALD GENE MITTIE,)	Case No. 1:21-cv-00393-EPG
)	
Plaintiff,)	STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR
)	EXTENSION OF TIME
vs.)	(ECF No. 17)
)	
KILOLO KIJAKAZI, Acting)	
Commissioner of Social Security,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
)	
)	
)	

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED, by and between the parties through their respective counsel of record, with the Court's approval, that Plaintiff shall have a 30-day extension of time, from February 11, 2022 to April 12, 2022, for Plaintiff to serve on defendant with Plaintiff's Opening Brief. All other dates in the Court's Scheduling Order shall be extended accordingly.

This is Plaintiff's first request for an extension of time. Good cause exists for this extension. As this Court is well aware, Social Security case filings in federal court increased due to a combination of factors including an increase in appeals council decisions and an increase in hearings at the administrative levels. Then, as a result of the pandemic, shelter-in-place mandates, and Court ordered Stays, there were significant delays in producing transcripts. In

1 recent months, Counsel for the Plaintiff has received a greater number of Answers and Certified
2 Administrative Records from defendant including over 60 cases in November and December
3 2021.

4 For the weeks of February 7, 2022 and February 14, 2022, Counsel for Plaintiff has 13
5 merit briefs, and several letter briefs and reply briefs. Counsel also has 16 administrative
6 hearings before the Office of Hearings Operations. Lastly, another attorney with the firm, Ms.
7 Dolly Trompeter, is currently out of state due to her father's medical condition and as a result,
8 the undersigned has taken on additional matters compounding the need for an additional
9 extension.

10 Counsel for the Plaintiff does not intend to further delay this matter. Defendant does not
11 oppose the requested extension. Counsel apologizes to the Defendant and Court for any
12 inconvenience this may cause.

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15 Respectfully submitted,

16 Dated: February 3, 2022

PENA & BROMBERG, ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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18 By: /s/ Jonathan Omar Pena
19 JONATHAN OMAR PENA
Attorneys for Plaintiff

20
21 Dated: February 3, 2022

PHILLIP A. TALBERT
United States Attorney
PETER K. THOMPSON
Acting Regional Chief Counsel, Region IX
Social Security Administration

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25 By: */s/ Margaret Lehrkind
26 Margaret Lehrkind
27 Special Assistant United States Attorney
28 Attorneys for Defendant
(*As authorized by email on February 3, 2022)

ORDER

Based on the above stipulation (ECF No. 17), IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff shall file Plaintiff's opening brief no later than April 12, 2022. All other deadlines in the Court's scheduling order are extended accordingly.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: **February 4, 2022**

/s/ Eric P. Grogan
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE